## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice claims 2-20 presented in the underlying International Application No. PCT/IL2004/001131, and add new claims 21-40 as shown in the listing of claims.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

## Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A multifunctional key~~board~~ ~~adapted to be used in an input/output device~~ ~~the multifunctional key~~ comprising a plurality of multifunctional keys having selectable key functions, at least some of the keys each including:

a touch surface;

~~a display means provided~~ an LED matrix adjacent to said touch surface and being operative to display selectable visual indications corresponding to said selectable key functions. ~~wherein said display means is adapted to changeably display signs;~~ ~~whereby keying in said multifunctional key generates an electronic signal corresponding to the sign~~ ~~currently displayed adjacently to said touch surface.~~

2 - 20 (Cancelled)

21. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 1 and wherein at least some of the keys each include a driver chip driving said LED matrix and a connecting cable providing communication between said key and an external device.

22. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 21, wherein said connecting cable is provided with at least 6 conductors including a VDD - chip power voltage conductor; a CLK - clock signal conductor; a DIN input data and control bit connector; an SW- input signal of normally open key contact conductor; a GND - common wire of power, data and second signal contact conductor; and a DO - output data and control bit conductor.

23. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 1, said LED matrix comprises 7 columns and 11 rows of LEDs.

24. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 21, wherein said driver chip comprises: an 11-digit shift register adapted to receive input data in serial code; row drivers connected to anodes provided in rows in said LED matrix; control circuit adapted to permit current output from said row drivers; a column driver adapted to select the column of said LED matrix using a 7-digit looped shift register.

25. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 21 and also comprising an elastomeric pad having a plurality of sensory contacts, said elastomeric pad being located beneath said plurality of multifunctional keys and being operative to normally retain said plurality of multifunctional keys in an upward position so as to prevent contact with said sensory contacts when the multifunctional key is in said upward position and to allow contact when one of said plurality of multifunctional keys is depressed.

26. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 1 coupled with at least one of gaming device, a computer and an internet communicator.

27. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 1 and wherein said selectable key functions are multi-lingual key functions.

28. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 1 and wherein said selectable key functions are user programmable.

29. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 1 and wherein said selectable visual indications are free-form programmable.

30. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 22, wherein said driver chip comprises: an 11-digit shift register adapted to receive input data in serial code; row drivers connected to anodes provided in rows in said LED matrix; control circuit adapted to permit current output from said row drivers; a column driver adapted to select the column of said LED matrix using a 7-digit looped shift register.

31. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 22 and also comprising an elastomeric pad having a plurality of sensory contacts, said elastomeric pad being located beneath said plurality of multifunctional keys and being operative to normally retain said plurality of multifunctional keys in an upward position so as to prevent contact with said sensory contacts when the multifunctional key is in said upward position and to allow contact when one of said plurality of multifunctional keys is depressed.

32. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 30 and also comprising an elastomeric pad having a plurality of sensory contacts, said elastomeric pad being located beneath said plurality of multifunctional keys and being operative to normally retain said plurality of multifunctional keys in an upward position so as to prevent contact with said sensory contacts when the multifunctional key is in said upward position and to allow contact when one of said plurality of multifunctional keys is depressed.

33. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 30 and wherein said selectable key functions are user programmable.

34. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 30 and wherein said selectable visual indications are free-form programmable.

35. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 32 and wherein said selectable key functions are user programmable.

36. (New) A multifunctional keyboard according to claim 32 and wherein said selectable visual indications are free-form programmable.

37. (New) A method of operating a multifunctional keyboard comprising:

providing a plurality of multifunctional keys having selectable key functions, at least some of the keys each including:

a touch surface; and

an LED matrix adjacent to said touch surface and being operative to display selectable visual indications corresponding to said selectable key functions;

programming said selectable key functions; and

programming said selectable visual indications corresponding to said selectable key functions.

38. (New) A method of operating a multifunctional keyboard according to claim 37 and wherein said selectable key functions are multi-lingual key functions.

39. (New) A method of operating a multifunctional keyboard according to claim 37 and wherein said programming said selectable visual indications is free-form programming.

40. (New) A method of operating a multifunctional keyboard according to claim 38 and wherein said programming said selectable visual indications is free-form programming.